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COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-3226

March 5, 2012

Hon. Lisa Jackson Administrator Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 3426 ARN Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Jackson,

I am writing in regards to the Eighteen Mile Creek Corridor in Niagara County, New York and to request that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) make every effort to expedite the determination regarding its inclusion on the National Priorities List (NPL).

Eighteen Mile Creek and surrounding properties have been the focus of numerous investigations by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and the EPA since the late 1980s. Despite the identification by NYSDEC of six Operable Units within the Eighteen Mile Creek watershed, as well as NYSDEC's release of two Records of Decision (ROD), remedial actions have not been implemented.

Recently, I was pleased to learn that the EPA proposed to add Eighteen Mile Creek to the NPL. On September 15, 2011, EPA commenced a sixty day comment period which ended on November 15, 2011. It is my understanding that EPA is currently reviewing comments to help determine whether Eighteen Mile Creek will be added to the List. Due to the concerns of many residents, I am asking that the EPA expedite a final determination in this matter.

Reaching a prompt conclusion is necessary to allow the EPA to take the next steps. Inclusion on the NPL enables the EPA to either locate a responsible party or ready the site for federal funding, should it become available. Knowing that the NYSDEC has been proactive in crafting a clean-up plan for this site, and understanding that the EPA shares similar quality control standards with NYSDEC, I am hopeful we can begin an efficient process aimed at cleaning this site and ensuring residents their safety is not at risk. I request your full consideration in expediting the review process and reaching a determination.

Sincerely,

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Kathleen Hochul Member of Congress

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